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and 291-5-11-3¼ candies of teak of and above 12 *vannams* and 563-10-9-15 candies of rosewood were sold. The major portion of rosewood was purchased by Messrs. Mugaseth & Sons. There were 2 classes of teak, one below 12 *vannams* and the other of and above 12 *vannams*. There is only one class in rosewood. The quarter girth varies from 7 *virals* to 28 *virals*. The average price realised for teak below 12 *vannams* and for of and above 12 *vannams* are Rs. 33 and Rs. 43 per candy respectively. The average price of rosewood realised is Rs. 63 per candy.

(2) (a) 60,000 candies of teak were supplied to Messrs. T Namberumal Chetti and Sons at Rs. 18 per candy.

(b) 3,605-1-7-12 candies of teak toplings were sold to the firm and the average price is Rs. 15-10-0 per candy.

(3) (a) 2,275-4-6-1¾ candies of rosewood were taken charge of by the firm and there were classifications. There were 4 classifications. (i) Selected logs of 8 feet girth and above were charged at Rs. 44 per candy, (ii) unselected logs of 8 feet girth and above at Rs. 38 per candy, (iii) logs under 8 feet and over 6 feet girth at Rs. 33-8-0 per candy, (iv) logs of 6 feet, etc., under up to and including 10 *vannams* at Rs. 24 per candy. The net amount realised per candy cannot be stated as the logs sold were those collected from different coupes at varying collection charges. 1,300 candies were given as allowance.

(b) The prescribed rate of the rosewood toplings given to Messrs. Mugaseth & Sons was Rs. 10 per candy.

(c) Figures for the last 10 years are not available. Quantity of rosewood sold from 1099 onwards is cds. 7,044-15-2-11. From 1100 onwards no ebony has been sold to Messrs. Mugaseth and Sons.

(4) 15 logs of cds. 54-7-13-8 were bid by Mr. M. L. Varied at Rs. 68 per candy, of which 8 logs were below 14 *vannams* and the balance 7 logs above 14 *vannams*.

(5) The collection charges on rosewood logs sold on 10-3-1104 are Rs. 8,029-1-11. This includes collection and loading in the hills and unloading charges at Chalakkudi and Tramway Transport charges. The net amount is Rs. 45,829-2-1.

(6) The information cannot be published now.

624. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) how many auctions were held in Chalakkudi depot in Thulam 1104 and how many candies of teak and rosewood were sold and by whom the major portion of the rosewood was purchased. How many classes of logs were there with the maximum girth, as well as the average price realised per candy ;

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(2) as per the contract, dated 3rd February 1912, how many thousand candies of teak were supplied to Messrs. T. Namberumal Chetty & Sons and the average price per candy ;

(3) how many candies of teak toplings were sold to the same person and the average price per candy ;

(4) as per the contract of 10th July 1925 for 3,800 candies of rosewood to Messrs. Mugaseth & Sons, how many candies were taken charge of and were there any classifications ; if so, how many and the rate for each sort, what was the net amount realised per candy from the said contractor ; why 1,300 candies were given to the firm as allowance against the Hill depot measurement ;

(5) during the recent auction sale on the 10th Thulam 1104, how many logs have been bidden by Mr. M. L. Varied and the average price per candy realised; were these logs below 14 *vannams* ;

(6) what was the prescribed measurement of the rosewood toplings given on seigniorage contract to Messrs. Mugaseth & Sons ;

(7) what is the collection charge Government has incurred for the rosewood logs sold on 10th Thulam 1104 and what is the net amount the Government has realised by the said auction sale ;

(8) how many candies of rosewood and ebony have been sold to Messrs. Mugaseth & Sons from 1100 onwards and upwards for 10 years ; what is the loss incurred up till now by selling rosewood to Messrs. Mugaseth & Sons by tender or private negotiation or on seigniorage when compared with the rate realised at the recent auction ;

(9) the loss Government incurred by the sale of teak to Messrs. T. N. Chetti & Sons from 1912 onwards by private negotiation when compared with the rate realised for teak in the recent auction ;

(10) the cost of collection comes to Rs. 15—12—0. including Tramway transport and Chalakkudi unloading charges; the average sale price per candy realised for rosewood by the auction sale in 1104 is Rs. 62 per candy; so the net gain is over Rs. 46 per candy; comparing with this figure, how many lakhs of rupees the Government have to collect from Mr. Mugaseth to make good the loss;

(11) what is the net amount realised for teak; from whom is the Government to realise the loss, from the officers concerned or from the contractors;

(12) what is the loss estimated by the Comptroller of Accounts in 1102 audit of the accounts of Messrs. T. N. Chetty & Sons, Mugaseth & Sons and Mr. V. K. Ammunni Menon;

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(13) what is the result of the inspection of the depot of Mr. T. R. Subbarama Ayyar at Ernakulam; what is the cause of the inspection;

(14) why Ranger Mr. C. Govinda Menon is posted to Chalakkudi alone; does any one use to checkmeasure the logs, etc., measured by this Ranger from the plantation; from the date of creation of this Plantation Ranger's post, how many thousands of candies of timber have been measured by him and value realised on his measurement; has the Conservator or Divisional Forest Officer ever checkmeasured any portion of the logs so measured by the Ranger; and, if so, to what extent;

(15) what is the maximum quantity of timber that a Ranger can measure according to *the Forest Code*; if any of the officers have checkmeasured the logs measured by Ranger Mr. Govinda Menon, the dates of such measurements together with extracts from their respective diaries may be placed on the Table; if none has been done, why this deviation from the *Code* rules, and has sanction of the Government been obtained; if so, a copy of the report of the Conservator of Forests and the Government order on it may be placed on the Table?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1), (2), (3) and (4). Vide answer to sub-divisions 1, 2, and 3 (a) of question No. 623.

(5) Vide answer to sub-division (4) of question No. 623.

(6) Below 14 *vannams*.

(7) Vide answer to sub-division (5) of question No. 623.

(8) Owing to the absence of records the quantity of rosewood sold to Messrs. Mugaseth & Sons during the last 10 years is not available. But that sold from 1099 onwards is candies 7,044—15—12—11. From 1100 onwards no ebony has been sold to the firm. No loss has been incurred by the Government, since the timber was sold according to the then ruling market rate.

(9) Government incurred no loss by the sale of teak to Messrs. T. Namberumal Chetty & Sons, as the sale was effected under the order of the Government in accordance with the then ruling market rate of timber.

(10) No money has to be collected from Messrs. Mugaseth & Sons. The price once obtained for rosewood cannot be had on another occasion as the price depends upon the rise and fall of the timber market. No comparison can be made now between the value of timber sold 10 years ago and that fetched in the current year's sale.

(11) The question is not clear.

(12) Vide answer to sub-division (6) of question No. 623

(13) The Conservator of Forests has not inspected the depot of Mr. T. R. Subbarama Ayyar.

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(14) & (15) Vide answer to question No. 425.

Tramway Department.

625. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) why the Government has allowed the Tramway Engineer to put on Churuli sleepers this year instead of other species as was previously done; if this variety is the cheaper one, why did the Government not adopt this before;

(2) is sawing beinn done in the Tramway workshop now-a-days; if not, why the same is stopped now;

(3) the quantity of different species of timber purchased by the Tramway Department during each of the last three years, (1101, 1102 and 1103) the value paid, other charges incurred by the Department and the net gain realised;

(4) has the Tramway Department sold in log form timber of any species to any purchaser after getting the logs on seigniorage from the Forest Department in 1103; if so, why the Forest Department itself could not do so, and realise the full benefit of the sales;

(5) (a) was the sale of timber on seigniorage to the Tramway Department provided for in the budget of 1102 and 1103; (b) the quantity of timber in each species sold to the Tramway Department during these years and the seigniorage realised; (c) if these are not provided for in the budget, has the sanction of the Government been obtained for the same?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1) With the minimum amount the maximum number of sleepers was procured to maintain the line throughout. This is being done under the existing state of affairs and this will have to continue till the stability of the Department is finally decided. This was not preferred before as the question of abolition was not taken up then.

(2) No. Owing to paucity of orders.

(3) A statement giving the information for 1101 is placed on the Council Table. The information for 1102 and 1103 is not ready.

(4) No.

(5) (a). No.

(b) A statement is placed on the Council Table.

(c) Government sanction was not obtained.

626. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether any sawing has been done in the Tramway workshop now-a-days; if not, why the same is stopped now;

(2) the quantity of different species of timber purchased by the Tramway Department for the last three years, the value

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